

CLAIMS

What is claimed as new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent of the United States is:

1. A method for providing authorized remote access to one or more application sessions, the method comprising:
requesting, by a client node, access to a resource;
gathering, by a collection agent, information about the client node;
receiving, by a policy engine, the gathered information;
making, by a policy engine, an access control decision based on the received information;
identifying one or more application sessions already associated with the user in response to the received information; and
establishing, by a session server, a connection between a client computer operated by the user and the one or more application sessions identified in response to the received information.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein step (a) further comprises requesting the resource over a network connection.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein step (b) further comprises gathering the information over a network connection.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein step (b) further comprises gathering information by executing at least one script on the client node.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein step (d) further comprises determining if the received information satisfies a condition.
6. The method of claim 5 further comprising determining if the received information satisfies a condition by comparing the received information to at least one condition.
7. The method of claim 6 wherein step (d) further comprises making an access control decision by applying a policy to the condition.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein a first one of the application sessions is running on a first server and a second one of the application sessions is running on a second server.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of establishing, by the session server, a connection between the client and the one or more application sessions is subject to a rule permitting the client computer operated by the user to connect to the one or more application sessions.
10. The method of claim 1 wherein the connection between the user and the one or more application sessions is triggered by the selection of a single user interface element.
11. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of receiving, by a session server, a disconnect request to disconnect the first application session associated with the user and the second application session associated with the user; and disconnecting, by the session server, the first and second application sessions.
12. The method of claim 11 further comprising updating, by the session server, at least one data record associated with the first and second application sessions to indicate that the first and second application sessions are disconnected.

13. The method of claim 12 further comprising the step of continuing, by the session server, execution of at least one of the disconnected application sessions.
14. The method of claim 1 wherein step (e) further comprises identifying, by the policy engine, one or more application sessions already associated with the user in response to the received information; and
15. The method of claim 1 wherein step (e) further comprises consulting stored data associated with one or more servers executing application sessions.
16. The method of claim 1 wherein step (e) further comprises consulting, by the session store, stored data associated with one or more servers executing application sessions.
17. The method of claim 1 wherein step (e) further comprises consulting, by the policy engine, stored data associated with one or more servers executing application sessions.
18. The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more application sessions was connected to a first client computer prior to connection and, after connection, the one or more

application sessions is reconnected to the first client computer.

19. The method of claim 1 wherein the one or more application sessions was associated with a first client computer prior to establishing the connection and, after establishing the connection, the one or more application sessions is connected to a second client computer.
20. The method of claim 1 wherein at least one application session is disconnected.
21. The method of claim 1 wherein at least one application session is active.
22. The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying one or more applications sessions is automatic upon receipt of authentication information.
23. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of providing for receiving application output from a one or more previously disconnected application sessions associated with the user in response to the transmitted information.

24. The method of claim 23 further comprising disconnecting at least one active application session associated with the user in response to the received information.
25. The method of claim 23 wherein the one or more active application sessions is initially connected to a first client computer and, upon requesting access to the resource, the user is operating a second client computer.
26. The method of claim 23, wherein the receipt of application output from the one or more active application sessions is subject to a rule permitting the user to have a client computer operated by the user connect to the one or more active application sessions.
27. The method of claim 23 wherein the receipt of application output from the one or more active application sessions and the receipt of application output from the one or more disconnected application sessions are triggered by the selection of a single user interface element.
28. The method of claim 23 wherein the one or more disconnected application sessions was connected to a first

client computer prior to disconnection and, at connection, the one or more disconnected application session is reconnected to the first client computer.

29. The method of claim 23 wherein the one or more disconnected application sessions was connected to a first client computer prior to disconnection and, at connection, the one or more disconnected application session is connected to a second client computer.
30. A system for providing authorized remote access to an application session, the policy engine comprising:
 - a collection agent gathering information about the client node; and
 - a policy engine receiving the gathered information, making an access control decision based on the received information, and requesting an enumeration of one or more application sessions associated with the client node, the request including the access control decision; and
 - a session server generating an enumeration of one or more application sessions associated with the client node responsive to the access control decision.

31. The system of claim 30 wherein the collection agent executes on the client node.
32. The system of claim 30 wherein the policy engine transmits the collection agent to the client node.
33. The system of claim 30 wherein the policy engine transmits instructions to the collection agent determining the type of information the collection agent gathers.
34. The system of claim 30 wherein the policy engine makes an access control decision based on applying a policy to the gathered information.
35. The system of claim 30 wherein a first one of the application sessions is running on a first server and a second one of the application sessions is running on a second server.
36. The system of claim 30 wherein the session server connects the client node to the one or more application sessions.

37. The system of claim 36 wherein the connection of the client node to the one or more application sessions, is triggered by selection of a single user interface element.
38. The system of claim 36 wherein the session server is also configured to receive a disconnect request to disconnect the first application session associated with the user and the second application session associated with the user and disconnect the first and second application sessions in response to the request.
39. The system of claim 38 wherein the session server is further configured to update at least one data record associated with each of the first and second application sessions to indicate that the first and second application sessions are disconnected.
40. The system of claim 38 wherein the session server is further configured to continuing execution of at least one of the disconnected application sessions.

41. The system of claim 30 wherein the policy engine further comprises stored data associated with one or more servers executing application sessions.
42. The system of claim 30 wherein the one or more application sessions was connected to a first client computer prior to connection and, after connection, the one or more application sessions is reconnected to the first client computer.
43. The system of claim 30 wherein the one or more application sessions was associated with a first client computer prior to connection and, after connection, the one or more application sessions is connected to a second client computer.
44. The system of claim 30 wherein at least one of the one or more application sessions is disconnected.
45. The system of claim 30 wherein at least one of the one or more application sessions is active.